CABINET

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 9th June, 2022.

The Committee agenda is available <u>here</u>.

The Meeting recording is available <u>here</u>.

<u>Present</u>: Councillor L. Burnett (Chair); Councillor B.E. Brooks (Vice-Chair); Councillors R.M. Birch, M.R. Wilson, M.R. Wilkinson, E. Williams, S. Sivagnanam and G. John.

Also Present: Councillor Dr. I.J. Johnson.

C1 ANNOUNCEMENT –

The Leader welcomed all parties to the first Vale of Glamorgan Cabinet meeting of the new Administration taking place on the 9th June, 2022, introducing herself as Chair of the meeting as Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources.

The Leader also introduced her fellow Cabinet Members:-

Councillor Bronwen Brooks - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places;

Councillor Rhiannon Birch - Cabinet Member for Education, Arts and the Welsh Language;

Councillor Mark Wilson - Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services; Councillor Margaret Wilkinson - Cabinet Member for Public Sector Housing and Tenant Engagement;

Councillor Eddie Williams - Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health:

Councillor Ruba Sivagnanam - Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Equalities and Regulatory Services; and

Councillor Gwyn John - Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Well-being

The Leader reminded Members and Officers that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded and would be uploaded to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website as soon as practicable after the meeting.

C2 MINUTES -

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April, 2022 be approved as a correct record by those Members who had been present at that meeting.

C3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Councillor L. Burnett

The interest related to Agenda Item 7 - Discretionary Cost of Living Scheme.

Councillor Burnett declared a personal and prejudicial interest, holding lasting power of attorney for a parent's affairs which included services for Telecare and domiciliary services.

Councillor Burnett said that advice had been sought from the Monitoring Officer and had been granted dispensation to speak, vote and take part in any discussions in relation to the matter.

Councillors Rhiannon Birch, Bronwen Brooks, Gwyn John, Margaret Wilkinson, Eddie Williams and Mark Wilson.

The interest related to Agenda Item 10 – Strong Communities Grant Fund.

Advice had sought from the Monitoring Officer as Members were representatives on Town and Community Councils who had been in receipt of previous awards. The Monitoring Officer advised that Members should declare a personal interest which was not prejudicial given the nature of the report, enabling them to speak, vote and take part in any discussions in relation to the matter.

C4 COUNCIL TAX DISCRETIONARY RELIEF (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report proposed that Cabinet reaffirm the current policy in order to grant Discretionary Council Tax Reduction in accordance with the provisions contained in section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended.

The policy set out the circumstances and information that would be taken into consideration when making a decision to award Discretionary Council Tax Reduction under section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended.

This was a matter for Executive and Council decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T Cabinet reaffirmed the current process for awarding discretionary relief in accordance with the Discretionary Council Tax Reduction Policy as attached at Appendix A to the report in relation to any valid application received and accepted by the Council.
- (2) T H A T Discretionary Council Tax Reduction would only be awarded after all other discounts, exemptions and Mandatory Council Tax Reduction had been awarded.
- (3) THAT the award would commence from the date the application was received and any backdated period would be considered depending on the merits of each individual application.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources to review the policy every 2 years and only report to Cabinet where any future changes were required.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To reaffirm the current policy for Discretionary Council Tax Reduction in accordance with the provisions contained in section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- (2) To reaffirm the current process for awarding Discretionary Council Tax Reduction in accordance with the provisions contained in section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and dealing with any subsequent appeals that may be received.
- (3) To confirm the position in relation to implementing the policy.
- (4) To allow the policy to be reviewed by the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources

C5 Q4 SICKNESS ABSENCE REPORT 2021/2022 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report set out the sickness absence figures for the 12-month period 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022 as part of the agreed performance management arrangements.

Absence levels had returned to levels similar to 2019/2020 (prior to COVID-19). The previous year (2020/2021) saw low levels of absence. Absence had increased in 2021/2022 in comparison to 2020/2021.

The absence rates were set out in paragraph 4.1 and showed an increase from 8.59 days lost per FTE (April 2020 to March 2021) to 11.35 days lost per FTE (April 2021 to March 2022). The annual target figure (April 2021 to March 2022) was set as 9.20 days lost per FTE.

The Leader said that Cabinet Members would discuss sickness absence figures in more depth and on an ongoing basis with their relevant Directors, as well as there being cross-party review by Scrutiny Committee.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T the report and the twelve-month (April 2021 to March 2022) sickness absence figures provided in Appendix A be noted.
- (2) THAT the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration, with any comments referred back to Cabinet for further consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To bring matters to the attention of Members of the Cabinet in line with corporate objectives.
- (2) To enable the Scrutiny Committee to maintain a continued focus on the management of sickness absence throughout all services of the Council and to make recommendations to Cabinet, as appropriate.

C6 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES / JOINT COMMITTEES (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report sought Cabinet approval for appointments to Outside Bodies following the change in Administration at the Annual Meeting held on 23rd May, 2022.

The Leader referred to the nominations listed as part of Appendix A and requested Cabinet agree to some minor amendments:-

i) Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) - The SACRE constitution allowed for 6 nominations, with three being noted in Appendix A. The Leader advised that the other Group Leaders would be asked for their nominations for the remaining three places and the Outside Bodies list would be updated accordingly.

ii) WJEC: Board of Directors – Appendix A listed Councillor Bronwen Brooks which was incorrect and should be amended to Councillor Rhiannon Birch.

The Leader also referred to the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Community Health Council which required a high level of commitments from those serving on that Committee and therefore essential that Members had the appropriate capacity to take that role forward.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report, all the issues and implications contained therein and noting the amendments to Appendix A,

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT Members be appointed or nominated to serve on the Bodies listed in Appendix A until the local government elections in 2027, subject to the amendments agreed at the meeting.
- (2) T H A T where legally possible, attendance at meetings of organisations to which a Member has been nominated or appointed by the Council be classed as an approved duty for which travelling and subsistence allowances are payable, in accordance with the Council's scheme.

Reasons for decisions

(1-2) To ensure continuity of representation by the Council on Outside Bodies.

C7 DISCRETIONARY COST OF LIVING SCHEME (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Welsh Government had put two schemes in place to provide support for those impacted by the Cost of Living crisis.

The mandatory scheme had made £150 available to all Band A to D Council Tax Payers and those in receipt of Council Tax Reduction.

There was also a discretionary scheme for which the Vale of Glamorgan had been awarded £825K to target those who have potentially fallen through the gaps of the mandatory scheme and those most impacted by the crisis.

The report set out the Council's proposed Discretionary Scheme which target support to:

- Those not covered by the mandatory scheme, predominantly those in Houses of Multiple Occupation, including students.
- Those receiving specific Council Tax exemptions care leavers, severe mental impairment, providing/receiving care, disability;
- Those with restricted benefits:

- Those with housing support or in temporary accommodation;
- Those receiving domiciliary care;
- Those in receipt of free school meals; and
- Block payments to food banks (or similar organisations).

The Leader said that with regards the mandatory scheme, in the first week of May 2022, 17,000 payments of £150 had been made to residents who pay their Council Tax by Direct Debit. Letters would also be going out within the next week to residents who had not been part of the first sets of payments as their payment details were not available. A designated telephone line had also been set up for residents who did not have access to a multi-media device and scan a barcode that would be contained within their contact letter. All URLs in the letter would be unique to the resident. It was estimated that 8,350 residents would benefit from the discretionary scheme in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Leader had also spoken with the Minister for Finance and Local Government who had asked Councils to suggest any further areas that required support which the Vale of Glamorgan Council would respond to accordingly.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the operation of the £150 Cost of Living Scheme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the design of the discretionary Cost of Living Scheme for the Vale of Glamorgan set out in paragraphs 2.5 to 2.23 be agreed.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Leader/Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources to make minor adjustments to the scheme to ensure the full £825K grant allocation was fully distributed.

- (1) To appraise Cabinet of the operation of the £150 Cost of Living Scheme.
- (2) To ensure Cabinet approval for the operation of the discretionary scheme so as to target the £825K grant to those most impacted by the Cost of Living crisis at the earliest opportunity recognising the challenges in identifying the appropriate recipients and make prompt payment.
- (3) To enable the full use of the funding available.

C8 MICROSOFT SOFTWARE LICENCE PROPOSAL 2022 – 2025 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Council had committed to using the positive learning experiences from the pandemic and feedback from employees to provide a springboard for new ways of working in the future. This had led to the proposal to move towards defining a new hybrid working model for the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

The report informed Members of the investment being made into the Council's ICT service, with the renewal of the Council's Microsoft Enterprise Agreement to licence Microsoft Software via a discounted product, the "E3 to E5 licensing ramp" which was available due to the timing of the Council's current contract. The report highlighted a number of benefits that this would bring to staff and citizens across the Vale of Glamorgan.

This would enable the Council to invest in new licences, required to meet the changing landscape across the Council and its services in terms of digital technologies, communication and engagement. In particular, this would allow the Council full access to the Microsoft suite of Security tools and extra functionality, including telephony, Power BI Pro, auditing tools and additional tools and functionality. By acting quickly, the Council would be able to receive the same benefits of E5 licences, at a discounted rate for the next 3 years.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the investment in the Council's ICT infrastructure as described in the report be noted and the use of the Chief Executive's Emergency Powers relating to the upgrade form Microsoft E3 to E5 be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T the report and recommendations be considered in connection with the Part II report later on the agenda.

- (1) As the Council approached the first anniversary of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, the Council had been eligible to take an E3 to E5 licence 'ramp', to upgrade the existing E3 licences to E5, and in doing so take advantage of a considerable discount from Microsoft (MS). Due to the timing of the offer, Emergency Powers were required to be exercised by the Chief Executive.
- (2) To allow Part I and II reports to be considered together.

COST OF LIVING: THE LIVING WAGE AND PAY RATES FOR GRADES ONE AND TWO STAFF (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report provided an overview of the Living Wage, the Living Wage Foundation and explained the requirements to become a Living Wage Foundation Accredited Employer.

As part of the Council's commitment to supporting all staff (particularly during the cost of living crisis) a cross functional group of officers was established within the Council to provide an integrated and collaborative review of the impact of the cost of living increase over the coming months and to consider how to best support those most vulnerable in our communities and internal staff, across all directorates.

This was in line with the Council's long-standing commitment to staff wellbeing.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T the proposals set out in the report for the Council to adopt the Living Wage of £9.90 for the lowest paid grades (Grade 1 and Grade 2 who were currently paid £9.60 and £9.79 per hour respectively) be approved with immediate effect.
- (2) T H A T the proposal for the Council to commence the process of actively working towards the Living Wage Foundation Accreditation be approved.
- (3) THAT Cabinet would receive a further report on the matters described in the report in due course in order

- (1) To acknowledge the significant contribution of staff in the lowest paid grades, whose roles were often front line, part time, citizen facing and had been key to the Council's response during the pandemic.
- (2) To support the Council with ongoing workforce pressures, articulated in the Corporate Risk Register around recruitment and retention and to ensure, in so far as possible, the Council had an attractive offering as a local employer of choice, with the ability to compete in a geographically wider market, which had become apparent with the widescale adoption of hybrid working, since the onset of the pandemic.
- (3) To enable Cabinet to consider the implications of accreditation to the Living Wage Foundation, whilst acknowledging this was voluntary and would be reviewed by the Council regularly.

C10 STRONG COMMUNITIES GRANT FUND (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report provided Cabinet with an update on projects approved under the current Strong Communities Grant Programme (SCGF) for the period since April 2020 until the end of March 2022. It also provided a summary of all projects approved under the initial SCGF Grant Programme from April 2017 to March 2020.

Councillor John said the report was a good news story in that clubs, community halls and numerous groups had benefitted from funding and that even smaller funding streams could help a lot of people.

The Leader agreed that the range of organisations and projects that had been worked on and delivered were phenomenal. She applauded the skills of Officers for capacity building within those organisations and help them develop skills to be able to take their projects forward, referring to Llandough Community Council and the children's playground in King George V Memorial Playing Fields and Ogmore Village Hall as excellent project examples.

Councillor Wilson echoed the points made by Councillors John and Burnett and was pleased that this Cabinet alongside previous Cabinets were looking to continue to support such a wide range of organisations for the longer term.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED – T H A T the content of the report and Appendices A and B be noted and referred the same to Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) for consideration.

Reason for decision

To provide Cabinet and Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) with an update on the Strong Communities Grant Fund.

C11 AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORTED LOCAL BUS SERVICES (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The report advised Cabinet of a tender exercise that had been undertaken in order to award new term specified contracts to supply Supported Local Bus Services B3, 88, 89A/89B, 100, 303, 304, 320 and 321 to successful suppliers (local bus operators). The contract required Cabinet endorsement so that the contracts could be executed with the chosen suppliers.

Further details relating to the tender costs were contained in a Part II report which was on the meeting agenda.

The Deputy Leader said that these bus services were much needed and that the Council was playing its part in supporting those services for local residents.

Councillor Williams said there would be an impact for any community losing a bus service, particularly for rural area which some areas would not be able to do without, and as such it was vital to support them.

Councillor John referred to the 321 service in the Western Vale as a vital connecting service and more important currently due to the cost of travel as a result of petrol prices.

Councillor Wilson said it was important as a Council to support and maintain those services and promote them as widely as possible them going forward, particularly the 89 service which goes to a hospital.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted for consideration in conjunction with the Part II Report on this Agenda.

Reason for decision

To advise Cabinet of the tender exercise undertaken prior to a request later on the agenda to agree legally binding contracts with the chosen providers.

C12 CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT (CSA) DRAFT REPORT 2022 (SCH) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The report advised Members of the current position in relation to the DRAFT Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) 2022. The report could be found at Appendix A. The statutory duties under sections 22, 26 and 27 of the Childcare Act 2006 required Local Authorities to shape and support the development of childcare provision in the local area to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community.

A Local Authority's CSA must measure the nature and extent of the current need and supply of childcare in an area. Through this analysis Local Authorities would be able to identify gaps in local childcare provision and where parents' needs were not being met. This would allow Local Authorities to plan how to support the market to address the gaps identified.

The Local Authority must develop and include an Action Plan in response showing how the Authority and their Partners could reduce identified shortcomings in their area. The Action Plan was kept under continuous review and updated on an annual basis.

Prior to formal submission to Welsh Government the DRAFT CSA required formal public and partner consultation for a minimum period of six weeks. Partners included Public Service Board, Childcare Providers, Childcare organisations, schools, WESP Members, Flying Start, Health partners and Local Authority partners.

The Cabinet Member referred to the wide range of consultees, users, future users, parents and schools and many comments offered on the experience of childcare both during COVID and during more normal times as that had varied considerably. There had also been discussions on cost implications for childcare and how that was difficult to manage for many households and often an issue for women who found it difficult to return to work due to the cost of quality childcare where family assistance was not possible.

The report urged more provision of childcare facilities from the private sector and the Council would be encouraging and supportive of the provision of such facilities rather than providing them.

There was also a shortage of care workers across all care settings, including a shortage of childcare with a Welsh language provision. which was an added complication.

The Leader urged people to participate in the consultation in order to gather a full picture and put forward a comprehensive action plan. She also referred to the barriers to childcare provision discussed in Section 15 and noted how parents had to juggle childcare around different providers, be that nurseries, schools or family members whilst having to maintain a level of income alongside providing childcare.

The Cabinet Member said that during the pandemic it had been clear that many working in healthcare settings had relied on family for childcare as there were no other ways of accommodating their working shift patterns. A further valuable conversation would centre around the sufficiency of wrap around childcare provision where there was often less provision in the rural Vale.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T the key findings and recommendations within the DRAFT Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the information and data collected be noted and the action plan to address the gaps identified with the CSA be supported.
- (3) THAT officers undertaking the statutory six-week public and partner consultation be agreed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable Cabinet to consider recommendations for the review of childcare provision.
- (2) To ensure Cabinet was kept informed of the progress with developments of the action plan that support childcare provision.
- (3) To ensure that those with an interest in the CSA were provided with the opportunity to consider the findings and provide formal feedback.

C13 ANNUAL CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING REPORT: 2021/22 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

There was a Corporate responsibility to ensure that there were effective arrangements in place for safeguarding children and adults who require specific Council services.

The Annual Report 2021/22 provided an overview of the Corporate Safeguarding activities which had taken place across the Local Authority.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the work that had been undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet would continue to receive six monthly reports on work carried out to improve Corporate Safeguarding arrangements and the effectiveness of relevant Policies.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to Healthy Living and Social Care, Learning and Culture, Home and Safe Communities, Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committees for consideration and Governance and Audit Committee to ensure continued oversight.

- (1) To ensure that Cabinet was aware of recent developments in corporate arrangements for safeguarding.
- (2) To allow Cabinet to exercise effective oversight of this key area of corporate working and be assured of effective safeguarding taking place.

(3) To respond to requests that each Scrutiny Committee and Governance and Audit Committee are provided with update reports.

C14 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC -

RESOLVED - T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

C15 MICROSOFT SOFTWARE LICENCE PROPOSAL 2022 – 2025 (DL/SP) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Part II document contained financial information referenced in the Part I document of the same title that was considered earlier on the agenda.

The financial information was commercially sensitive so was not included in the Part I document.

The Leader said that the Part I report presented for Cabinet's endorsement earlier on the agenda had set out the rationale for the renewal of the Council's Microsoft Enterprise Agreement to licence Microsoft Software via the "E3 to E5 licensing ramp or upgrade. This was rather than to simply renew the Enterprise Agreement with current E3 licences.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) THAT the contents of the Part II report in conjunction with the Part I report of the same title on this agenda be noted and endorsed.
- (2) THAT the use of the Chief Executive's Emergency Powers to enable the Council to take advantage of the discounted offer from Microsoft to upgrade Microsoft Office 365 licences be noted.

- (1) To provide Cabinet with an overview of the functionality and rationale for the upgraded Microsoft Office 265 licencing.
- (2) To seek endorsement for the use of the Chief Executive's Emergency Powers relating to this matter.

C16 AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORTED LOCAL BUS SERVICES (EAWL) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Part II document was referenced in the Part I document of the same title that was considered earlier on the agenda.

Existing term specified contracts for Supported Local Bus Services B3, 88, 89A/B, 94/96 (Mon-Sun eve), 100, 303/304, 320/321 and X2 (Mon-Sat eve) reached their full term on Sunday, 3rd April 2022.

Officers undertook an open tender exercise on the Sell2Wales portal to award new term specified contracts to supply Supported Local Bus Services B3, 88, 89A/89B, 100, 303, 304, 320 and 321 to successful suppliers (local bus operators).

Officers had also come to agreement with Cardiff Bus and First Cymru, respectively, to award new 'de minimis' (i.e. directly awarded) contracts as permitted under the Transport Act for the Council supported elements of Service 94/96 (Mon-Sun evenings) and Service X2 (Mon-Sat late evening journeys) based on existing prices. It was proposed that those contracts be terminable on notice rather than fixed term contracts.

To ensure continued service provision the Council's annual budget for Supported Local Bus Services was increased by £90k per annum via a supported cost pressure from the start of financial year 2022-23.

Following late notification from one operator that they would not be able to undertake a service allocated to them, a further £12,086.62 was required to ensure all financially supported bus services could be funded for the 2022/23 financial year.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T the open tender exercise that was undertaken via the Sell2Wales portal for financially supported local bus services be noted.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services to execute contracts, in respect of the supported local bus services detailed within the body of the Report.
- (3) T H A T the increase of £90k awarded in the 2022/23 annual budget for Supported Local Bus Services to enable continued service provision, because of a reported cost pressure be noted.
- (4) T H A T the supported bus budget being increased by a further £12,086.62, which would be funded from within the Transport Services Budget be agreed.

- (1) To ensure that Contract Procedure rules and Financial Procedure rules had been adhered to as part of the procurement process.
- (2) To ensure continued supported local bus service provision that helped fill gaps within the commercial local bus service network and ensure the Council had a legally binding contract in place with the chosen suppliers.
- (3) To ensure the provision of supported local bus services procured by the Council remained within budget.
- (4) To ensure supported local bus services could be funded in the 2022/23 financial year.